



For Immediate Release
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CED Statement Regarding Status of NUMMI Plant in Fremont

SACRAMENTO – Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi, chair of the California Commission for Economic Development, is pushing for an allocation of federal stimulus money to keep Toyota from closing the New United Motor Manufacturing, Inc. (NUMMI) automobile plant in Fremont. Garamendi said in an already strained economy, the loss of the last auto plant in California will be unfathomable.

“Closing NUMMI will result in the loss of 4,700 jobs at the auto plant and another estimated 20,000 to 35,000 jobs indirectly. That cannot happen. This is a statewide issue. NUMMI works with a vast supplier network of more than 1,000 companies located in 35 California counties. Those companies alone employ approximately 20,000 people. Also, NUMMI is a major customer for various other service providers,” Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi, chair of the California Commission for Economic Development said. “The Toyota GM partnership at NUMMI has shined a light on the potential for foreign and domestic companies to build and prosper in California.”

Garamendi said the federal government has spent billions in Detroit when the auto industry was threatened. Some of that generous support must be directed to California, a federal tax dollar donor state, to help convince Toyota to keep the Fremont auto assembly plant in operation.

Garamendi will present this important issue to the full Commission for Economic Development Thursday and ask for their support in passing emergency legislation to keep the NUMMI plant Fremont.

- SB 483 (Corbett – San Leandro): creates enterprise zone in Fremont
- SB 830 (Wright – Los Angeles): enterprise zone & tax benefits
- ABX4 31 (Torrico – Fremont) : process a sales & use tax exemption for manufacturing equipment

NUMMI was established in 1984 as a joint venture between General Motors and Toyota Motor Corporation. Garamendi said Toyota is a valued business partner and investor in the California economy. He believes Toyota will realize the severity of the situation and the debilitating economic impact at local, state and federal levels if a federal stimulus incentive package were added to the NUMMI plan.

About the CED: The Commission for Economic Development provides continuing bipartisan legislative, executive branch and private sector support and guidance for the best possible overall economic development of the state.

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